

REMARKS

The indication that claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, claim 2 has been written in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of the base parent claim 1 therein, such that claim 2 should now be in condition for allowance. Additionally, dependent claims 3 - 7 have been amended to depend directly or indirectly from claim 2, with the claims being amended in a manner which is considered to overcome the rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as will be discussed below.

As to the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6 and 7 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al (US Patent No. 6,765,346 B2), this rejection is considered to be obviated by the cancellation of claim 1 and the rewriting of objected to claim 2 in independent form, and the amendment of the dependent claims to depend directly or indirectly from claim 2. Accordingly, a discussion of the cited art in relation to the claimed invention is considered unnecessary.

As to the rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, by the present amendment, claims 3 - 5 have been amended to clarify features thereof and applicants submit that such claims, as amended, should be considered to be in compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Turning to claim 3, applicants note that this claim, which has been amended to depend from claim 2, recites the feature that the flat panel display device includes partition walls, represented by the partition wall 5 extending between a first panel 1 and a second panel 10, wherein the first panel 1 includes a substrate 2 and the second panel 10 includes a substrate 11, as shown in Fig. 6. Furthermore, as

illustrated in Figs. 7 and 20, for example, control electrodes 7 are provided on the substrate 2 of the panel 1, and one end-side portion of the partition wall 5 is in contact with the control electrode 7, as illustrated in Fig. 20, while another end-side portion thereof extends in a direction toward the second panel 10, as illustrated in Fig. 6 such that claim 3 which now recites the features that each of the partition walls has one end-side portion thereof in contact with the control electrode and another end-side portion thereof extending in a direction toward the second panel, which features are clearly illustrated in the drawings.

With respect to claim 4, which depends from claim 3, this claim has been amended to recite the feature as illustrated in Fig. 20, and described at page 20, lines 13 - 25 of the specification, for example, that portions of surfaces of the partition walls 5 include conductive material 6, which conductive material form control electrode lines 6, as illustrated in Fig. 20. That is, page 20, lines 13 - 16 provide that by printing a silver paste to regions having a width of 50 μ m at a position spaced 50 μ m to 100 μ m away from an end portion of each partition wall 5 having a height of approximately 3mm, the control electrode lines 6 are formed. Furthermore, claim 4 has been amended to recite the feature that the plurality of control electrodes 7 are electrically connected to the conductive material as represented by the control lines 6. As described at page 20, lines 16 - 25 of the specification, branch line 8 portions having a width of 50 μ m for connection with the respective control electrode 7 are formed between the control electrode line 6 and the end portion of the partition wall 5. Further, to ensure the electrical connection between the branch lines 8 and the control electrodes 7, it is effective to preliminarily apply particles having a conductivity at least on surfaces of the control electrode 7 which are brought into

contact with the branch lines 8. Thus, claim 4, as amended, should be considered to be in compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

With regard to claim 5, this claim has been amended to recite the feature that at least parts of said another end-side portion of the partition walls are in contact with the second panel, as illustrated in Fig. 6, for example. Thus, claim 5, as amended, should also now be considered to be in compliance with 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

With regard to the objection to the drawings that the feature that “the partition walls each of which has one end in contact with a second-panel-side surface of the control electrode” must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s), this objection to the drawings is considered to be overcome by the present amendment of the claims. More particularly, as noted above, claim 3 has been amended to recite the feature of partition walls each of which has one end-side portion thereof in contact with the control electrode and another end-side portion thereof extending in a direction toward the second panel. Applicants submit that such feature is clearly illustrated in Figs. 6 and 20 of the drawings of this application, for example, wherein one end-side portion of the partition wall 5 is in contact with the control electrode 7 at least by way of the conductive material 6 and 8 (Fig. 20 and claim 4), and as is apparent in Fig. 6, the partition walls 5 have another end-side portion extending in a direction toward the second panel 10 and in contact with the substrate of the second panel 10 (Fig. 6 and claim 5). Thus, applicants submit that all features now recited in the claims are illustrated in the drawings of this application and further illustrated is considered unnecessary.

In view of the above amendments and remarks and the indication that objected to claims would be allowable when written in independent form, applicants


submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Since this amendment is being submitted at the end of the six month statutory period for response, and although applicants consider this amendment to place this application in condition for allowance, in order to avoid any question of abandonment of this application, applicants appeal the final rejection of claims 1 - 7 pending in this application and authorize the charging of appeal fees, if deemed necessary, to the deposit account of the office of the undersigned, as indicated below. Applicants request that any charging of appeal fees be held in abeyance pending a determination by the Examiner of the allowability of this application, noting that if this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the amendment submitted, a charging of the fees becomes unnecessary.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43527X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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